

in the real world, but also represents their notions of the good food, good children, the pleasure and help which the good father and mother give each other in their sexual relation—for in unconscious phantasy " getting married" represents parental intercourse. And in the midst of all this delightful happy play at weddings, there peep out here and there, the deeper and more terrifying phantasies of the child about the nature of "getting married". Although these brief hints of deeper phantasies occupy but little space and time in the open words and play behaviour of the children, it is worth our while to glance at them, since they are undoubtedly linked up with the less happy characteristics of the children who reveal them. Frank and Harold, for instance, in their play of " express wedding trains ", are representing the potent father, and showing us their notions of what the potent father does. When Harold asks Priscilla to "go into the little house and I'll be the Daddy and go past in my motor car", he is again representing parental intercourse. But when Frank says of someone who is going to be married, " When she is married we shall spit in her face, shan't we ? " he is allowing us to glimpse another of his ideas as to what fathers do to mothers. On the surface his remark is quite unintelligible, but in the light of what psycho-analytic studies have shown as to unconscious urinary phantasies of male potency and intercourse, we can understand it. Frank was expressing, in the only terms permissible in his conscious mind, his anxiety about his belief that his father urinated into his mother. It is of course a phantasy built upon projection—since the child has nothing but urine to give to mother, the father cannot have and shall not have anything better to give. But it

operates as a real belief and gives rise to great
terrors in the
child, making it harder for him to believe in
good parents,
and so in the possibility of being good himself.
The great
dread that Frank and Benjie had about the
sexual relation
between the parents is shown in an unqualified
way when
they speak of " Someone who is crazy " and "
She is going
to the police station, and getting married, and
then we will
kill her after that." They are speaking of the
night-time
sexual parents, whom they do not understand,
who seem to
them to be "crazy¹", so utterly different from the
day-time
parents. In their saying "We will kill her
after that",
they are expressing both their own hostile
intentions to the